Sub. C3 D3 cont. cont.

e) from about 3% to about 12% plasticizer

f) from 0% to about 6% tackifier with softening point below about 37°C

g) from 0% to about 25% NaCMC with degree of substitution above 1.0

h) from 0% to about 6% powdered cellulose

wherein the probe tack force in grams is in the range of 400-750, saline absorbency is in the range of about 500-5000 $g/m^2/d$, and tensile strength is in the range of about 500-3500 g/cm^2.

REMARKS

Twenty-three claims are pending in this application, numbered 1-23. There are three independent claims, numbered 1, 16 and 20. Each of these claims has been amended as indicated.

The Examiner issued a Notice of Allowability on June 5, 2001. Subsequent thereto the claims were amended and thereafter objected to by the Examiner. The present amendment restores the claims to those allowed by the Examiner with the additional modification in clause d of claim 1, wherein it is made clear that the range of anti-oxidant is from 0% to about .5% and claim 1, clause c, claim 16, clause c, and claim 20, clause b, wherein it is recited that the tackifying resin comprises polyvinylcyclohexane.

The references formerly cited by the Examiner do not suggest the composition having the properties claimed in newly amended independent claims 1, 16 and 20.

Allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Twice Amended) A pressure sensitive hydrocolloid adhesive for medical use comprising the following composition by percentage weight:

a) from about 2% to about 10% ethylene propylene rubber

b) from about 9.5% to about 16% styrenic block copolymer

c) from about 24% to about 33% [aliphatic hydrocarbon] tackifying resin [that is solid above] having a softening point below about 37°C comprising polyvinylcyclohexane

d) from [about] 0% up to .5% anti-oxidant

e) from about 15% to about 35% NaCMC (Low DS)

f) from about 5% to about 20% pectin

g) from 0% to about 6% tackifier with low softening point

h) from about 3% to about 12% plasticizer

i) from 0% to about 25% NaCMC (high DS)

j) from 0% to about 6% powdered cellulose

wherein the probe tack force in grams is in the range of 400-750, saline absorbency is in the range of about 500-5000 $g/m^2/d$, and tensile strength is in the range of about 500-3500 g/cm^2.

16. (Twice Amended) A pressure sensitive hydrocolloid adhesive for medical use comprising the following composition by percentage weight:

a) from about 2% to about 20% ethylene propylene rubber

b) from about 2% to about 16% styrenic block copolymer

c) from about 14% [-] to about 33% [aliphatic hydrocarbon] tackifying resin [that is solid above] having a softening point below about 37°C comprising polyvinylcyclohexane

d) from 0% to about 0.5% anti-oxidant

e) from about 10% to about 35% NaCMC with degree of substitution below 1.0

f) from 0% to about 30.5% pectin

g) from about 3% to about 12% plasticizer

h) from 0% to about 6% tackifier with softening point below about 37°C

i) from 0% to about 25% NaCMC with degree of substitution above 1.0

j) from 0% to about 6% powdered cellulose

wherein the probe tack force in grams is in the range of 400-750, saline absorbency is in the range of about 500-5000 $g/m^2/d$, and tensile strength is in the range of about 500-3500 g/cm^2.

20. (Twice Amended) A pressure sensitive hydrocolloid adhesive for medical use comprising the following composition by percentage weight:

a) from about 11.5% to about 36% of a hydrocolloid blend of ethylene propylene rubber and styrenic block copolymer

b) from about 24% to about 39% [aliphatic hydrocarbon] tackifying resin [that is solid above] <u>having a softening point below</u> about 37°C <u>comprising polyvinylcyclohexane</u>

c) from 0% to about 0.5% anti-oxidant

d) from about 20% to about 52% absorbent powder selected from the group consisting of NaCMC pectin, powdered cellulose, pregelatinized starch, powdered fillers, fibers, absorbents, and super absorbents

e) from about 3% to about 12% plasticizer

f) from 0% to about 6% tackifier with softening point below about 37°C

g) from 0% to about 25% NaCMC with degree of substitution above 1.0

h) from 0% to about 6% powdered cellulose

wherein the probe tack force in grams is in the range of 400-750, saline absorbency is in the range of about 500-5000 $g/m^2/d$, and tensile strength is in the range of about 500-3500 g/cm^2.